

MARVEL
LIMITED SERIES
2 of 2

DEMATTEIS
CHING
KETCHAM
SCHWAGER

CHAOS WAR

THOR

RATED T+

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IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE, GODS WALK THE EARTH.

**SOME SIDE WITH HEROES.
OTHERS SPREAD DREAD AND DESPAIR.**

**ONE GOD CARES FOR NEITHER.
HE IS THE CHAOS KING.**

AND HE WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO END EVERYTHING WITH HIS

CHAOS WAR



**CHAOS KING'S IMMENSE
ALIEN SLAVE-GOD
NAMED GLOFY HAS BEEN
DEFEATED BY THOR.**



**THE THUNDER GOD HAS
FALLEN HELPLESS AND
AMNESIAC TO EARTH,
TAKEN IN BY A WOMAN
WHO HAS LOST HER
FAMILY AND FAITH.**



**AND ALTHOUGH THEY
HAVE FOUND PEACE,
THE PAST HAS A WAY OF
RETURNING.**

CHECKLIST

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☐ CHAOS WAR #5

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THE BUZZING:
it was everywhere.

Not just
AROUND us...
but INSIDE us.

SWARMING
through our thoughts
and feelings.

THROUGH
OUR SOULS.

This place--this little cabin
in the Black Mountains of
NORTH CAROLINA...

...had been my
SANCTUARY.

I'd lost my husband, my
daughter...MYSELF...and
come here seeking some
small shred of HOPE.

What I found instead--was a
MAN: naked and shivering in the
snow. As lost and alone as I was.

But we shared a
CONNECTION.
Something deep...
inexplicable...

...that allowed me
to believe, if only
for a moment, that
things could
actually CHANGE.

And they DID.

A comic book illustration depicting a dramatic scene. In the foreground, a man with blonde hair, wearing a purple long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans, is rowing a small, dark wooden boat. He is looking back over his shoulder with a determined expression. A woman with long brown hair, wearing a green and white striped shirt, is seated in the boat behind him, looking up in shock with her mouth open. The boat is being attacked by a massive, dark, multi-headed monster. The monster has several heads, each with sharp teeth and glowing yellow eyes. It is reaching out with long, dark tentacles. The background is a dark, stormy sea with a red, fiery sky. The overall tone is dark and action-packed. A speech bubble from the woman reads: "But not in the way I'd EXPECTED."

THE RISEN

NOTGUTTICHER



I didn't know
WHAT that
thing was...

...but the creature
seemed to know HIM:
my MYSTERY MAN.



It studied him with a dark fascination.
And an even darker LOATHING.

I found out later that, as
the thing dug its talons into
the man's flesh, it dug PSYCHIC
talons into his MIND.



And when it tasted
his BLOOD...

...it tasted a small piece of his
CONSCIOUSNESS. And THAT...



...was too much
for the creature
to BEAR.

It SHRIEKED--in a
voice that was TEN
THOUSAND voices.

Voices that vibrated with
agony, fear, frustration.
And the awful memory...



...of their own EXTINCTION.

I didn't know at the time
that the thing was all that
remained of a god named
GLORY: the embodiment
of an ENTIRE PANTHEON
of alien deities..

...that served the CHAOS KING--a cosmic
lunatic whose goal was to return the entire
creation to a state of NON-EXISTENCE.



But now Glory was
nothing but INSECT-LIKE
FRAGMENTS of memory
and feeling. Impulse, desire...

KRAKATHOOOM



...and EXPLOSIVE hatred.



BECCA--ARE YOU--ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

STILL IN ONE PIECE...BUT I'D HARDLY SAY I'M "ALL RIGHT."

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

I DON'T KNOW!

But my Mystery Man DID know. Maybe not CONSCIOUSLY...



...but there was a PART of him that RECOGNIZED Glory.

He stopped, gazed at the beast...and, for an instant, all human vulnerability fell away like a MASK.

His expression was angry, defiant. PROUD. As if he could just reach out his hand and WIPE the Glory-thing off the face of the earth.

But then humanity RETURNED--and fear WITH it--and we ran for the car.



TOO LATE.

It took all of my will just to put one foot in
FRONT of the other as we headed for the woods.

Losing my
family had been
a NIGHTMARE.

But THIS?

GET UP!
HURRY!

I CAN'T!
MY LEG! IT--

JUST
GO, BECCA!
BEFORE--

I went back for
him. I HAD to.

This was
CHAOS.

And just as I
reached him...

...a hall
of spear-like
PROJECTILES
rained down...

...forming a
CAGE around us.
And I knew...

...that I was
going to DIE.

A part of me was horrified, but ANOTHER part
was RELIEVED: the part that had DESIRED
death, WISHED for it, ever since Phil and Mandy
were killed in that stupid, senseless CRASH.

But horror and relief were BOTH overwhelmed
by a sudden flash of INTUITION...



...as I reached out WITHOUT
THINKING: placed my hand beside
Mystery Man's. HELD TIGHT to
that gnarled walking stick...

...and unleashed
a MIRACLE.

For a SPLIT SECOND it was as
if I DID die: My consciousness
ripped wide. I was myself...and
NOT myself. Mortal, limited
BECCA STEINHARDT...

...and something ELSE:
something ancient and unlimited.
Powerful beyond imagination.
And yet as intimate, as familiar...

...as my own
HEARTBEAT.



MEP
I DIDN'T DO
ANYTHING!

WHAT DID YOU DO?

ME? I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!

But the truth is we'd BOTH done it...whatever "it" was. And we KNEW it.

But knowing and UNDERSTANDING are two very different things.

IT'S COMING BACK!

RRrrrrrrrrrr!

RUN!

I RAN--wondering, the whole time, WHO the man beside me REALLY WAS...

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...could feel like
a mirror of MY
OWN SOUL.

H-HELP
ME!



I heard a
VOICE there:
It was HIS...



...but, somehow, it was coming
from INSIDE me. "HELP you, Becca?" He said.
"I have ALWAYS helped you. PROTECTED you.

"And I always WILL.

"Why do you think you
REMAIN awake, while ALL
THE WORLD sleeps? Why
do you think you reach for
LIGHT--

"--while ALL THE WORLD is dark?"

The voice
FADED--and so
did the VISION.

WHOOOM
WHOOOM

With the mountain
ERUPTING all around us,
with the Glory-thing
soaring closer and closer...

...there was precious little
time to make SENSE of it
all--if I even COULD.

Maybe, I thought, this
IS a nightmare. Maybe
I'm having some kind
of psychotic break.

But if I was lost
in a grief-induced
DELUSION...

...why did it
feel more real--than
REALITY ITSELF?

Glory followed us to
the mouth of the cave,
then HESITATED.

It stood there growling: FLICKING
its tongue. Spreading and retracting
its newly formed WINGS.

It wanted us DEAD,
that was clear. But,
for all its ferocity,
it seemed to fear
US--as much as
we feared IT.

THANK YOU
FOR SAVING ME
BACK THERE.

MAYBE...I
SHOULD HAVE
JUST LET YOU
FALL.

WHAT?
HOW CAN YOU
SAY THAT?

WHEN YOU
WERE SLIPPING
AWAY AND I
GRABBED YOUR
HAND...IT FELT
LIKE--

LIKE SOME ENERGY...
SOME FORCE...WAS
EATING AT ME.
DEVOURING ME.

STRIPPING
AWAY...
EVERYTHING
THAT I AM.

THE SAME
FORCE THAT I FELT
WHEN THAT LIGHT--
OR WHATEVER IT
WAS--EXPLODED
OUT OF US.

AND YOU
THINK THAT
I--?



I DON'T
KNOW *WHAT* TO
THINK! HELL, I DON'T
EVEN KNOW WHO
I *AM*!

YOU'RE
SCARED. I'M
SCARED, TOO.

BUT WHAT
I FELT...YES, IT *WAS* A
STRIPPING AWAY, A KIND
OF *DEVOURING*. BUT
IT WAS A STRIPPING
AWAY--



--WE--

"--OF LIES."



I'M NOT A LIE--I'M A
HUMAN BEING! I LIVE.
I BREATHE...I *EXIST*!

AND THAT
ENERGY--IT MADE
ME FEEL AS IF I WAS...
NOTHING.

MAYBE, IN
SOME WAYS, YOU
ARE. MAYBE WE
ALL ARE.



"BUT
MAYBE...*BENEATH*
THAT NOTHING...IS
EVERYTHING.

"A POWER
IN OUR *HEARTS*...THAT
CONNECTS US TO *ALL*
THAT IS, AND ALL THAT
WE CAN *BECOME*."

--WE
REMEMBER--

"ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT
GOD...?"



WHATEVER
I FELT...WHATEVER
I *SAW*...IT
TRANSCENDS
WORDS, IT--

WE
REMEMBER--



--WHO WE
ARE...AND WHO
YOU ARE!

THOR--

--COME
FORTH!



THOR.



I spoke
the NAME...



PLEASE.

...and
I KNEW.

THE OTHER NIGHT I
KNELT THERE...CRYING
OUT TO EVERY GOD
THAT EVER WAS...OR
WOULD BE.

BEGGING
FOR SOMEONE
TO LIFT ME UP--
OUT OF MY
PAIN.



AND
YOU...YOU
FELL FROM
THE SKY.



"The
ANSWER to
my PRAYER."

THOR!





TOGETHER.



A blending of spirit and memory,
wisdom and will: I melted into him,
HE melted into me, and we
BECAME ONE--with each other...

...and with something
INFINITELY LARGER
than both of us.

I felt an almost overwhelming
SURGE of extraordinary power
as he--as WE...

...drove the Glory-thing BACK.

But the alien (its body
expanding, evolving; its HATE
expanding, too) rose up...

...FEEDING
us its rage...

...Flooding
our EVERY CELL with
UNSPEAKABLE pain.

It might have
ENDED then and there...

...but it's hard to
KILL two people...

...who'd both
died BEFORE.

I'D died when my HUSBAND
AND DAUGHTER were buried.
When I TURNED MY BACK on
the living--and retreated to the
Black Mountains.

And
THOR?

As his memories washed over me, I
experienced the terrible moment--during
the thunder god's FIRST encounter with
Glory--when his hammer unleashed a
tidal wave of cosmic energy that RIPPED
the alien god APART.

But it ripped THOR
apart as well. Shredded
his very being. And the
only thing that SPARED
him from extinction...

DO YOU
TRULY THINK IT'S
THAT EASY--TO
DEFEAT ME?

...WAS MY PRAYER.

I thought I'd been praying
FOR salvation...and I
WAS...but, somehow, that
one simple prayer...

WE DON'T
WANT IT TO BE EASY,
THUNDERER!

WE WANT IT
TO BE SLOW...
AND SO VERY
DIFFICULT!

...had saved the
life of a GOD...

...and called
him down to
EARTH...

YOU ARE
BUT A *SHADOW*
OF WHAT YOU ONCE
WERE, GLORY! A
FADING ECHO!

I DESTROYED
YOU *ONCE*, SERVANT
OF CHAOS--

...where he took shelter in
UNKNOWN--and in the form of
DON BLAKE: the mortal man who'd
always *HUMANIZED* the immortal
god. And provided him *SANCTUARY*.

For a time, the memory-stripped
shell of that man had been *ALL* that
remained. Yes, *THOR WAS DEAD...*

--and
I'LL DO IT
AGAIN!!

...but,
somehow, I
provided the
spark...

...that became
the *FLAME* of his
RESURRECTION.

WATHOOOM

My *BELIEF* in him...the
VERY *FAITH* I THOUGHT
I'D LOST...raised him from
the tomb. And he...

NOT
ONE--

--BUT
MANY!

A PANTHEON--

--OF TEN
THOUSAND!



...had raised ME up as well. And I suddenly understood--that he'd BEEN raising me up For YEARS.

For LIFETIMES!

CENTURIES fell away--and I saw the woman that I was in a lost, lonely AGE...in a cold, brutal PLACE...

...crying out to the GREAT PROTECTOR of her people...



...the Fabled THUNDER GOD.

ONE LIE--OR TEN THOUSAND! IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE--



--TO THE LIGHT OF TRUTH!

Thor answered me THEN...

TO THE DIVINE LIGHTNING--

...and he answers me STILL.

--THAT BURNS AWAY LIES!

The MEMORY of those ancient days--the CONNECTION to my long-ago protector--was ALWAYS THERE, in the deeps of my soul. It may have FADED...



...but it never DIED.

YOU MAY
HAVE REDUCED US TO
A MERE SHADOW OF
WHAT GLORY WAS.
THOR--



--BUT WE
ARE BORN AGAIN
IN CHAOS KING'S
POWER!

EVEN NOW
HE BREATHES INTO
US...REVIVES US!



AND WITH
THE LORD OF
THE VOID AT
OUR BACK--

--YOU AND
THIS DREAM YOU
CALL REALITY--
CANNOT HOPE TO
SURVIVE!

BUT BEFORE
OBLIVION OVERTAKES
ALL THINGS, ODINSON--
WE WILL OVERTAKE YOU!
ABSORB YOU INTO
OUR...GLORY!



HOW BLESSED
YOU ARE TO BECOME
THE NEWEST
ADDITION--



--TO GLORY'S
PANTHEON!

Thor struggled to fight the
magnetic pull of the alien's
CONSCIOUSNESS.



I have no doubt he
would have battled on
till he died AGAIN...

...but I begged him
NOT to. "LET him do
it!" I pleaded. "LET
Glory consume us!"

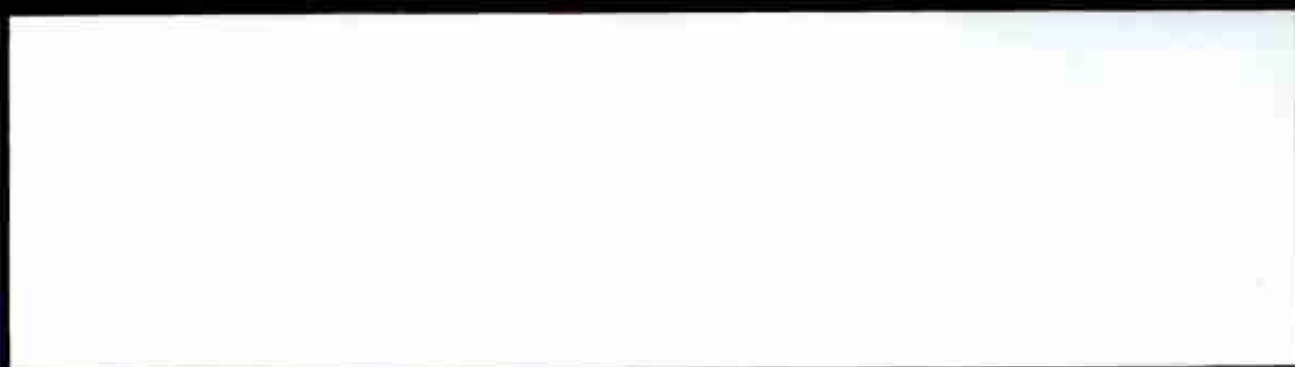
I felt the
thunder god's mind
PUSHING against
mine, resisting ME
as mightily as he
resisted GLORY.

To surrender went against everything that he KNEW. Everything that he WAS. But then I felt something STIR within him. Awaken and rise up. Not the DEITY who commanded the heavens...

...but the MAN who Fell From the sky.

A man who knew that war wasn't the ONLY solution.

And that sometimes even GODS need to take a leap...



...OF FAITH.

WHAT
HAPPENED?



A PRAYER.

I...DON'T UNDERSTAND.

WHILE GLORY WAS ABSORBING US, WE PRAYED TOGETHER, YOU AND I...TO THE CREATOR OF ALL GODS AND MEN.

BUT I DIDN'T--

NO, THOR-- YOU DIDN'T. YOU COULDN'T. BUT DON BLAKE COULD.

WE'RE ALL... EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US...A REFLECTION OF THAT CREATOR. A PIECE--THAT CONTAINS THE WHOLE.

AND WE ALL... EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US...CARRY HIS POWER WITHIN US.

BLAKE AND I CALLED ON THAT POWER. IT ANSWERED.



AND THE ANSWER WAS TOO MUCH FOR GLORY TO BEAR.

I CAN FEEL HIM. HE'S NOT GONE--JUST FOLDED INTO CHAOS KING'S BEING. GLORY WILL RISE AGAIN.

AND I'M SURE THAT, WHEN HE DOES--YOU'LL BE THERE TO STOP HIM.



BOTH OF YOU.





THE CHAOS RAGES ON...



CHAOS KING WINS!

CHAOS WAR #5 01/26/11



INCREDIBLE HULKS #619
12/22/10



CHAOS WAR: DEAD AVENGERS #2
12/22/10



CHAOS WAR: X-MEN #1
12/29/10



INCREDIBLE HULKS #620
01/12/11



CHAOS WAR: DEAD AVENGERS #3
01/12/11

Journey into History

As one of the premier heroes of the Marvel Universe, there is almost no end to the thrilling tales the thunder god has had! Here's another four history-spanning tales of the hammer-wielding wonder!



Thor: Tales of Asgard

Never has Thor been more sensational than during these early tales crafted by Marvel's greatest, Stan Lee and Jack Kirby. Re-live Stan and Jack's stories of the Norse Gods and Thor before he came to Earth as Don Blake. Read these stories as never before with all-new, modern coloring and six interlocking covers by Olivier Coipel!



Thor: Disassembled

Ragnarok appears to have come for the gods of Asgard, and only Thor and his Avengers allies are able to stave off that fate - but will the Thunder God be Asgard's savior, or the architect of its downfall? Beset on all sides by treacherous foes from his past, the God of Thunder leads the tattered remnants of the forces of Asgard on a desperate quest, as the Realm Eternal burns.



Secret Invasion: Thor

The Skrulls are coming for Asgard!! But it's not just the pantheon who stand to suffer the repercussions of the aliens' secret invasion - the citizens of small-town Broxton, Oklahoma are about to become collateral damage in the attack, and the God of Thunder must defend two cities at once! For a job this big, Thor will have to turn to one of his oldest and closest allies - Beta Ray Bill!



Thor: The Mighty Avenger

Thor's banished, he's mad, and he wants to **fight**. Thrill as he battles robots the size of cities! **Gasp** as he tames the mightiest sea creatures! **Swoon** as he rescues damsels from the vilest villains! It's Thor as you've **never** seen him before. If you're new to the mighty world of Thor, this collection of issues 1-4 is the **perfect** place to begin!